

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
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P R 181610Z FEB 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1794
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
CINCLANT
USCINCEUR
USDOCOSOUTH
USLOSACLANT
USNMR SHAPE
USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST

S E C R E T USNATO 0926

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO, TU
SUBJECT: TURKISH POSITION ON EWG CONSIDERATION OF NATO FLEXIBILITY
STUDIES

REF: (A) USNATO 0895 (DTG 170900Z FEB 77) (NOTAL)
(B) USNATO 0891 (DTG 161830Z FEB 77) (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: DURING COURSE OF TURKISH AMBASSADOR KIRCA'S FEB 16
CALL ON AMBASSADOR STRAUSS-HUPE (REF A), AMONG OTHER THINGS, KIRCA
COMMENTED ON THE ISSUE OF THE TURKISH RESERVATION ON THE EWG'S
HANDLING OF THE NATO FLEXIBILITY STUDIES, NOTING THAT TURKEY WANTS
THE STUDIES TO PROCEED BUT WILL RESERVE ON MEASURES
AFFECTING GREECE. HE PROMISED FURTHER CLARIFICATION OF THE
TURKISH RESERVATION SOON. END SUMMARY.

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1. KIRCA RAISED THE SUBJECT OF THE FLEXIBILITY STUDIES,
REITERATING THE POINT MADE AT THE EWG MEETING
ON FEBRUARY 14 BY TURKISH REP (TOPUR) (REPORTED
PARA 6 OF REB B) THAT TURKEY INTENDS NEITHER
TO BLOCK ALL OF THE STUDIES NOR TO CREATE AN IM-
PASSE. TO DO SO WOULD NOT BE IN TURKEY'S OWN
NATIONAL INTEREST. KIRCA EXPRESSED A DESIRE
TO SEE PROGRESS ON THE NORTHERN AND CENTRAL REGION
STUDIES AND THE MARITIME STUDY BECAUSE OF THEIR UL-
TIMATE BENEFIT TO TURKEY BUT ADDED THAT ANKARA

CANNOT ACCEPT AN APPROACH CALLING FOR CONTINUED NATO PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING ON THE POSTULATE THAT GREECE IS STILL PART OF THE INTEGRATED MILITARY STRUCTURE. HE STATED EMPHATICALLY THAT GREECE IS NOT, AND STRESSED THAT THIS IS EVEN MORE OBVIOUS AS A RESULT OF THE GREEK REPLY TO NATO OF JANUARY 27, 1977.

2. IN DEFENSE OF THE TURKISH RESERVATIONS RAISED IN THE EWG AND THE DRC, KIRCA ARGUED THAT GREECE RESERVES WHEN ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ALLIANCE AND TO UNDERTAKE SPECIFIC OBLIGATIONS. HOWEVER, KIRCA COMMENTED THAT THERE ARE ALSO POSITIVE ASPECTS OF THE GREEK RESERVATIONS. HE STATED THAT THE MILITARY COMMITTEE HAD FORWARDED THE FLEXIBILITY STUDIES TO THE EWG WITHOUT GREEK OPPOSITION, AND HE DREW THE CONCLUSIONS THAT: (A) GREECE IS INCAPABLE OF BLOCKING AN MC DECISION, AND (B) THE MC CONSIDERS THE GREEK MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE TO BE AN OBSERVER, NOT A FULLY EMPOWERED MEMBER.

3. KIRCA ASSERTED THAT DISCUSSION OF THE TURKISH RESERVATIONS AS PART OF THE NATO NEGOTIATIONS WITH GREECE IS IMPERATIVE. HE NOTED THAT MOST OF THE EWG MEMBERS HAVE NOT ACCEPTED THE TURKISH ARGUMENT
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THAT GREECE IS NOT A PART OF THE INTEGRATED MILITARY SYSTEM AND COMMENTED THAT DURING THE FEBRUARY 14 EWG MEETING HIS DELEGATION WAS PRESSED TO ACCEPT ANOTHER SOLUTION WHICH WOULD CONSIST OF LETTING WORK ON THE NORTHERN AND CENTRAL REGIONS PROCEED WHILE SETTING ASIDE THE SOUTHERN REGION. HE ADDED: "THIS TOO, WE CANNOT ACCEPT. IT IS NOT OUR POLICY TO PUNISH OURSELVES. WE ARE NOT SO SILLY AND RESENT SUCH PRESSURES."

4. IN CONCLUDING, KIRCA STATED THAT TURKEY WOULD RESERVE IN THE EWG ON THE SOUTHERN REGION STUDY AND IN OTHER NATO BODIES, ON THOSE MEASURES IN WHICH GREEK COOPERATION WITH THE INTEGRATED MILITARY STRUCTURE IS REQUESTED. IN HIS VIEW, THE ISSUE RAISED IN THE EWG ON FLEXIBILITY STUDIES IS A PART OF THE BROADER PROBLEM OF GREECE-NATO RELATIONS, HE STATED THAT HE SOON WOULD FORWARD TO D/SYG PANSA THE TURKISH RESERVATIONS AND EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT WORK ON THE FLEXIBILITY STUDIES CAN BEGIN.

5. KIRCA UNDERLINED, IN CLOSING, THAT COMPLETION OF THE US-TURKISH DCA WOULD BE THE SINE QUA NON FOR TURKISH COOPERATION IN MATTERS AT NATO INVOLV-

ING GREECE. STRAUZ-HUPE

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